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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,461	06/29/2001	Michael Thomas Kurdziel	HAR65 001	6363
7590	06/07/2006		EXAMINER	
			BROWN, CHRISTOPHER J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2134	

DATE MAILED: 06/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/893,461	KURDZIEL, MICHAEL THOMAS	
	Examiner Christopher J. Brown	Art Unit 2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 May 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 4-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4,5 and 7-10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 6 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 4, 5, 7-10 directed to an invention non-elected with traverse in the reply filed on 3/14/2006.

Applicant is given ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the date of this letter, whichever is longer, to cancel the noted claims or take other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144). Failure to take action during this period will be treated as authorization to cancel the noted claims by Examiner's Amendment and pass the case to issue. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) will not be permitted since this application will be passed to issue.

The prosecution of this case is closed except for consideration of the above matter.

Applicant's election with traverse of claim 6 in the reply filed on 3/14/2006 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that

A) Group I is generic to Group II.

This is not found persuasive because Group I is not generic to Group II.

Group I is drawn to the step of effectively inhibiting the operation of the most downstream of modulo operators in the block cipher device having the first key.

Group II does not contain this limitation. Group II is drawn towards providing a first key generator having two equal sections of symbols, which encode and

decode at a first stage and cancel symbols applied to a second stage. Group I does not contain this limitation and thus is not a generic of Group II.

B) Groups III and IV are not separate and distinct.

Group III is drawn to a key scheduler directed to not encrypt data if the first portion of the key data block is equal to the second portion of the key data block, and the first function unit is equal to the second function unit,

Group IV is drawn to a first means for randomizing a portion of the key block data.

In the instant case, invention III has separate utility such as a key scheduler directed to not encrypt data if the first portion of the key data block is equal to the second portion of the key data block, and the first function unit is equal to the second function unit. In the instant case, invention IV has separate utility such as randomizing a portion of the key sub-block data.

Each group is directed towards particulars that may show unobviousness towards patentability without requiring particulars from the other group.

C) There is no serious burden on the Examiner.

Each group is directed towards a separate class, and the subject matter found in group II that is deemed allowable is not in the other groups. A search for each group would provide for a serious burden on the examiner.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed 1/20/06 fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because the appropriate 1449 form has not been filed.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claim 6 would be allowable over the prior art of record if all non-elected claims were cancelled because, claim 6 provides a first key generator in two equal sections, replicating a second key in both sections of a first key, wherein using the symbols to encode and decode in a first stage, where the symbols cancel the symbols applied to a second stage.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher J. Brown whose telephone number is (571)272-3833. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-6:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jaques Louis Jaques can be reached on (571)272-6962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Christopher J. Brown

5/27/06


Christopher J. Brown
JAMES H. LOVINS
FEDERAL REGISTER